

O. G. Villard's Paper Barred From Mails

Attack on Slacker Raids Made in Last Issue of "The Nation"

Cause for Action Unknown to Editor

Postal Authorities at Washington Issue Order to Prevent Mailing

The current issue of "The Nation," a weekly publication, with offices at 20 to 24 Vesey Street, has been withheld from the mails pending further orders from the postal authorities at Washington. No intimation has been given of the reason.

At the offices of "The Nation" it was learned that the editor, Oswald Garrison Villard, left his home, at Dobbs Ferry, yesterday morning for a week-end at his summer home, in Blackpoint, Conn. H. R. Mussey, managing editor of the publication, last night said that the reason for the action of the postal authorities was a mystery to him.

"We went to press as usual on Tuesday," said Mr. Mussey, "and the issue went into the mails on Wednesday night, according to our custom. This morning I found on my desk a note from the New York Postoffice saying that the magazine had been held up pending further action by the postal authorities at Washington. The communication vouchsafed no details."

"Have you no idea as to what particular article may have induced the action of the authorities?" he was asked.

"No," he replied, adding, "You are just as good at guessing that as we would be."

"Civil Liberty Dead"

A portion of an article denouncing the recent slacker raids, under the title, "Civil Liberty Dead," was called to Mr. Mussey's attention, and he was asked if that might not be the matter arousing official objection. The quotation reads:

"It is the fact that personal liberty and freedom have disappeared in America, and that the bulk of our vocal patriots thoughtlessly approve of it in the estimation of the slacker to the war. At the very moment when the British Labor Party and the Liberal Party together have demanded of the Lloyd George government that freedom of press and speech shall be restored at once—now, not when the war ends—when the French Socialists have just unanimously voted that, war or no war, there will be no general strike in France if Clemenceau again denies their passports to Socialists who desire to attend the long-planned Inter-Allied Socialist conference in America, we are witnessing the suppression of the right of public meeting and of a free press with almost no protests."

Quotes Senate Denunciation

"The freedom with which the 'Marching Guards' of the 'Daily News' in London 'Nation' and other rappers in England and Ireland criticize the government for the government's good is unknown here. Senator Johnson did not exaggerate when on Friday last he declared that the only place in the United States in which there is free speech today is the Senate chamber, in which the Democrats, Republicans and Progressives denounce the New York outrage (the slacker raids), respectively of party lines. But when a week and ineffective a Senator as Mr. Sherman, who has been in the back of the Administration, as he did in a lengthy speech on September 3, there is at least this much encouragement. The papers that have been the beginning of that opposition in Congress the need of which has been so painfully obvious."

"If the Republicans are searching for an issue they need look no further. If the Democrats are seeking to realize what has been done and is being done throughout this country in the name of liberty, they would emulously demand that the government be organized opposition to the end that this government may again be a government of laws and not of men."

First Action Against Paper

Mr. Mussey declined to express his opinion on the possibilities of the postal order. He said that this was the first occasion in which "The Nation" has been the subject of any governmental action, and he had never before been any intimation of displeasure expressed from any source with the writings appearing in the publication.

Postmaster Thomas G. Patton last night said that he had no information on the subject of the bar placed on the mailing of "The Nation." He said that the order came from the solicitor general, and the postal department at Washington.

Oswald Garrison Villard, the publisher of "The Nation," recently discussed his interest in "The Evening Post" to devote his time to the magazine.

BLACKPOINT, Conn., Sept. 13.—At the home of Oswald Garrison Villard, editor of "The Nation," it was said to-night that Mrs. Villard had gone to Washington. Mrs. Villard said that she was unable to say what the purpose of Mr. Villard's trip to the capital might be.

Hulbert Is Port Director

Mayor Hylan yesterday appointed Commissioner of Docks Murray Hulbert to act also, without extra salary, as Director of the Port of New York. The Mayor called attention to the increasing problems of the waterfront arising out of the war, and said: "As we assume greater responsibilities in the prosecution of the war, and may own and effort being taxed to the utmost, it seems to be most appropriate to designate a representative in these matters, as the statute contemplates."

Mr. Hulbert was a member of the Rivers and Harbor Committee of the Sixty-fourth and Sixty-fifth Congresses and made a study of New York's harbor problems.

Work or Fight, Wilson Tells War Strikers

(Continued from page 1)

enment work, has refused to accept the mediation of the National War Labor Board and has flouted its rules of decision approved by Presidential proclamation. With my consent the War Department has taken over the plant and business of the company, to secure continuity in production to prevent industrial disturbance.

"It is of the highest importance to secure compliance with reasonable rules and procedure for the settlement of industrial disputes having exercised a drastic remedy with recalcitrant employers, it is my duty to use means equally well adapted to the end with lawless and faithless employees."

"Therefore I desire that you return to work and abide by the award. If you refuse, each one of you will be barred from employment in any war industry in the community in which the strike occurs for a period of one year. During the time the United States Employment Service will decline to obtain employment for you in any war industry elsewhere in the United States, as well as under the War and Navy departments, the Shipping Board, the railway administration and all government agencies, and the draft boards will be instructed to reject any claim of exemption based on your alleged usefulness in war production. Sincerely yours, "WOODROW WILSON."

United States Takes Over Plant

Commandeering of the Smith & Wesson plant and the placing of an army ordnance officer in charge was announced formally by the War Department after the action had been disclosed by President Wilson, in a letter notifying striking workmen at Bridgeport that they must return to work.

"This action," said the department's statement, "was made necessary by the refusal of the Smith & Wesson Company to abide by the award of the National War Labor Board, rendered August 22, 1918. This is the only instance of a manufacturer under contract with the War Department, arbitrarily rejecting an award by the agency set up by the President for the maintenance of industrial peace during the war."

"The War Labor Board's finding in the Smith & Wesson case was made upon a recommendation by Joint Chairman Frank P. Walsh and Frederick N. Judson, acting joint chairman in the absence of Mr. F. P. Walsh. The report recommended that the company discontinue for the period of the war its practice of compelling employees not to join a trade union; that the clause of which bound the employee not to join a trade union; that the right to join trade unions be extended to the workers and that a system of arbitration be established in the Smith & Wesson plant. The demand of the workers for a 25 per cent increase in pay was not conceded in the recommendation, it being stated that the company's wages could best be worked out through the operation of the collective bargaining system."

"In its letter rejecting the War Labor Board's award, the Smith & Wesson Company said: 'The Smith & Wesson Company sees no reason why it should abandon its lawful and legitimate method of doing business, known and proved to be conducive to industrial peace and high efficiency for the fantastic method outlined by the War Labor Board, which would be a complete strike in France if Clemenceau again denies their passports to Socialists who desire to attend the long-planned Inter-Allied Socialist conference in America, we are witnessing the suppression of the right of public meeting and of a free press with almost no protests.'"

Objects to Concern's Language

"The language employed by the company in the foregoing paragraph was held to be calculated to induce other employers to avoid the jurisdiction of the War Labor Board and to defeat the object of the President's creation, and the company's general attitude toward the reasonable findings of the board was deemed such as might be expected to disturb industry and to interfere with production."

"The recommendations contained in the War Labor Board's finding are in thorough accord with the principles and policies to govern industrial relations for the period of the war promulgated by the President and made the constitution of the War Labor Board, its principles and policies were adopted by duly selected representatives of organized employers and workers of the United States. It is the policy of the War Department to give effect to the decisions of the War Labor Board in all cases coming under the jurisdiction of the department."

Morrison Regrets Workers' Attitude

Frank P. Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, in a statement to-night, said:

"The refusal of the machinists of Bridgeport to abide by the award made through the machinery of the National War Labor Board, and their further refusal to heed the advice and instructions of President Johnson, of their international organization, to return to work is to be deeply regretted."

First Workers to Refuse

"While there have been a number of employers who have absolutely refused to submit their grievances to the War Labor Board, and the Bethlehem Steel Company and others have refused to comply with the award of the War Labor Board, this is the first instance that has been brought to my attention where the government's plans for winning the war have been defeated by the refusal of organized labor, even though the award or decision did not reach their expectations."

"The local unions of internationalists to follow the advice and instructions of their duly elected international representatives cannot but bring about a condition that is in opposition to the desires of the organized bodies of workers of the United States."

"The machinists, after returning to work upon the request of President Wilson, and the advice of the President and his cabinet, are now being rehired and taken to the War Labor Board."

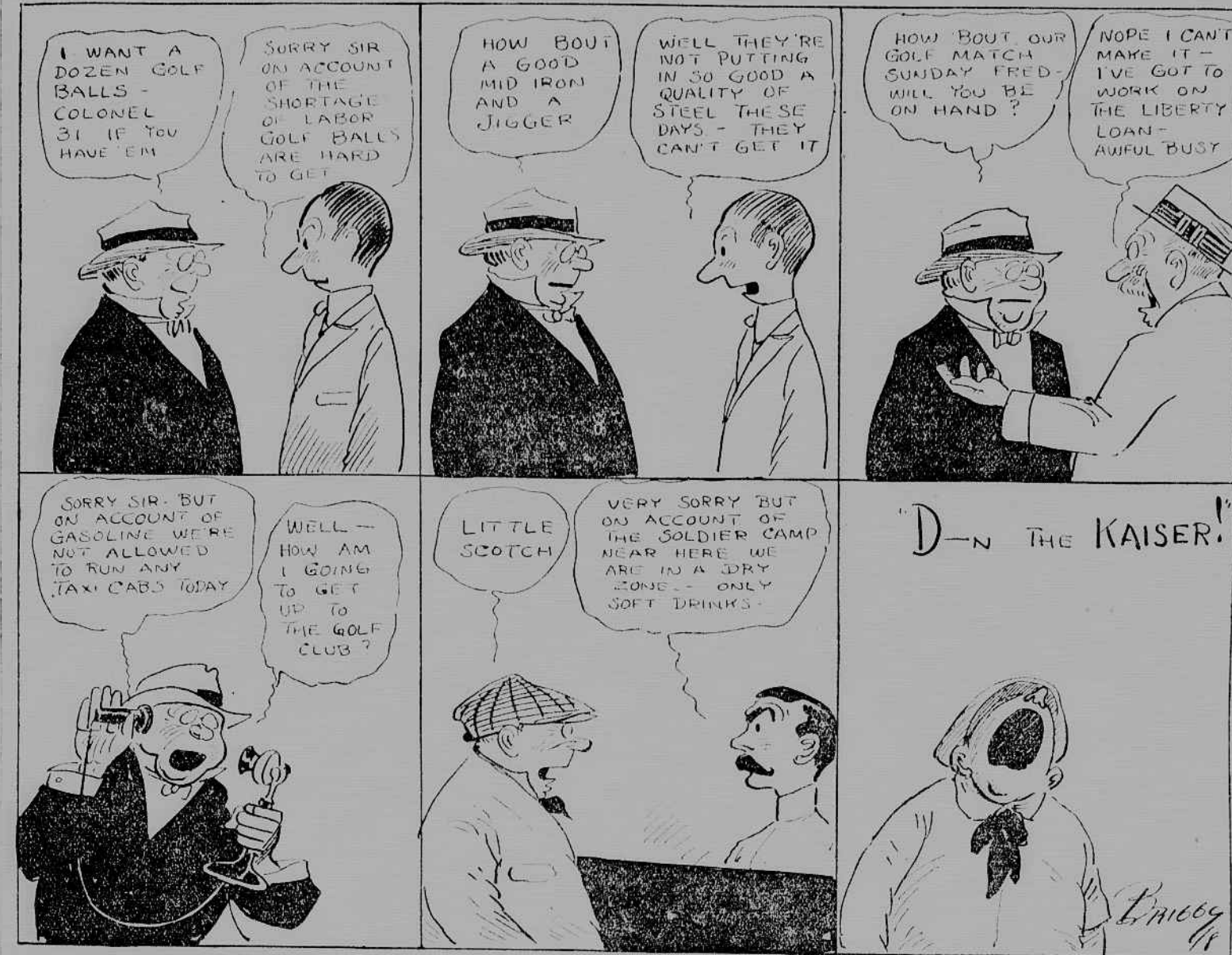
Bridgeport Union, Angry, Virtually Defies President

(Staff Correspondence of The Tribune)

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Sept. 13.—The striking munition workers virtually defied President Wilson to-night. The President's statement, made early in the day, that the decisions of the National War Labor Board were final and would be enforced, was the subject of heated discussion at a star chamber session of the strikers, which began early in the evening at the local lodge of the International Association of Machinists and continued far into the night.

The men were fully aware that President Wilson had authorized the War

Somebody Is Always Taking the Joy Out of Life



John Reed Accuses British of Attempt Upon Lenin's Life

Indicted "Masses" Editor Calls Allied Intervention in Russia "Brigandage"

John Reed, one of the indicted editors of "The Masses," who started back to the United States from Russia, then completely controlled by the Bolsheviks, as a kind of experimental minister from that "government," spoke for Germany's ally, the Bolshevik Russia, last night at a meeting in Hunt's Point Palace, 1181 Street and Southern Boulevard, The Bronx. The meeting was under the auspices of the Socialist party of New York.

Despite the fact that had the Bolsheviks obtained recognition instead of declaring war on the United States, Reed might have been immune from prosecution as their diplomatic representative, Assemblyman Benjamin Gitlow introduced him as the correspondent who dared to come back voluntarily when he learned that he was under indictment.

Mr. Reed charged the British government with responsibility for the attempt to assassinate Nikolai Lenin, now being given to the anti-Bolsheviks as their diplomatic representative. He said that when the "secret history" of the negotiations of the United States and the Allies with Red Russia became known the military support now being given to the anti-Bolshevik factions would be branded as the greatest piece of brigandage in history. Sympathy was wasted on the Czechoslovak cause, he said. He characterized them as the greatest Judases in history. He said that when the Bolsheviks had started them for France under safe conduct the Czechoslovak cause was abandoned. He said that the Russian government was now watching the bourgeoisie kill Bolsheviks.

There were about 1,000 at the meeting, and they cheered Red Russia and vilified John Reed thunderously, but when Assemblyman Gitlow mentioned the name of Eugene V. Debs, and said that his crime consisted of declaring that the world was not yet judged until the Soviet Union was under great working class got justice, men and women clapped to their feet, wild with enthusiasm, and shrieked hysterically. A resolution was passed pledging financial and moral support to keep Debs out of jail.

Gregory Weinstein, editor of the Bolshevik sheet "Novy Mir," was honored by the crowd when he complained that his paper was under great pressure because the government would not let it use the mails.

The purpose of the meeting was billed to be "Save Free Russia, It Is in Peril." All the Russian savers went home hoarse and congratulating one another that if they had not saved the world, they must at least have saved the United States, which they vowed they would do.

Victor J. Rybicki introduced the resolution condemning the strikers. He argued that at this time organized labor could ill afford to do anything to interfere with the government's plans for winning the war. He accused the Bridgeport men of not only being trouble makers, but of being most disloyal to the cause of labor.

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Newsboys Ask for Defence Funds

THE newsboys and newsdealers request contributions to a legal defence fund. They have engaged counsel to fight their battle in court. Checks should be made payable to Lemuel Ely Quigg, 32 Liberty Street, New York, temporary custodian of the fund.

Mr. Quigg acknowledges receipt of the following contributions to the Newsboys' Union to be used by them in the payment of their expenses. Mr. Quigg will make no charge for his services and the money will be devoted solely to the payment of such necessary expense as is otherwise incurred:

Anonymous	\$0.50
Ethel M. Barry	5.00
Elizabeth Johnston	1.00
G. G. S.	2.00
Mary W. Holman	1.00
Cornelia Cousins	5.00
Mary L. Edwards	1.00
F. R. Squair	2.00
F. N. Fassett	1.00
H. S.	5.00
H. W. S.	1.00
Previously acknowledged	1,014.75
Total	\$1,039.25

U. S. Industries Board Enters Hearst Fight

(Continued from page 1)

one, at the time when trade is at its best, and began crying their wares. The trick, however, was too apparent to deceive Moskowitz's customers, and but few papers were sold by the newsboys.

Hired by Combine, He Says

"I asked the men," said Moskowitz, "sent them to my place, and what they meant by their actions. At first the leader said they had come of their own accord. But later he said he was working for a combination of papers owned by the Tribune. He asked him if that kind of business suited him. 'Well,' said he, 'to tell the truth, we're not depending on the papers we own to get our money. We're hired by a combination to do this; they give us \$7 a day, and that's why we're here!'"

"I told them it was outrageous to try and deprive another man of his living in that way. The man laughed. 'We need the money,' he said."

His Customers Are Loyal

"However, they did not fool any of my customers. These crowded their way past the fellows to get their papers. The man said they always have."

"I do not believe that between them they sold a dozen papers, and those who sent to strangers who did not know what was going on. At first the leader said they had come of their own accord. But later he said he was working for a combination of papers owned by the Tribune. He asked him if that kind of business suited him. 'Well,' said he, 'to tell the truth, we're not depending on the papers we own to get our money. We're hired by a combination to do this; they give us \$7 a day, and that's why we're here!'"

"I told them it was outrageous to try and deprive another man of his living in that way. The man laughed. 'We need the money,' he said."

Enright to Investigate

Lemuel Ely Quigg, counsel for the newsdealers, yesterday received a letter from Police Commissioner Richard E. Enright thanking him for calling to his attention the assault upon an aged dealer in City Hall Park because he refused to carry Hearst papers.

"I shall certainly have the matter given careful investigation," Mr. Enright wrote, "with a view to preventing any further occurrences of a similar nature."

"It is exactly the sort of a reply I expected from Mr. Enright," said Mr. Quigg. "I believe he will give the newsdealers every legitimate protection against the thugs who may be employed to terrorize them, and use every effort to prevent public disorders of this or any other kind."

"Zeitung" Editors Introduce Wilson's Letter to Brisbane

Defendants Quote President, Who Guaranteed Freedom to Criticise

NEWARK, N. J., Sept. 12. A letter written by President Wilson to Arthur Brisbane, one of William Randolph Hearst's editors, in which the President upholds the right of Americans to criticize their public officials, himself included, was read into the record today by the counsel for the defence at the trial of the former publishers and former editor of the "New Jersey Free Zeitung," charged with violating the espionage act.

The case for the defendants—Benjamin Gitlow, Edwin S. Prieth and William von Kattler, who opened this morning by Otto Steifel, who told the jury that he represented a trio of much maligned Americans who were loyal to the cause of the United States. Mr. Steifel took up in detail the lives of the three remaining defendants. He said he would prove to the jury that other papers which he did not name had attacked England in a more violent fashion than had his clients. He promised to dwell on this point in detail as he developed the defence.

Prieths Born in United States

Mr. Steifel said that the Prieths were born in America. Benjamin, he said, had been a member of the Board of Education of Newark, and also had been treasurer of the State Republican Committee and a member of the Committee of One Hundred. Mr. Kattler, he said, had been an officer of Prussian troops during the Franco-Prussian war of 1870. "For this von Kattler was not ashamed," declared Mr. Steifel, and added that the Prussians of 1870 were very different in their conduct of war from the Prussians of today.

When the Prieths expressed resentment against the attacks on all things German that were being made in the United States after we entered the war, they were functioning in the highest degree as citizens. Of course, they resented it when people shouted for the extermination of everything German in this country, for the suppression of the German language, German art and German science after the war. Why shouldn't they?"

Mr. Steifel then read the following letter, written April 27, 1917, by President Wilson, and addressed to Arthur Brisbane, of the Hearst publications:

Wilson's Letter to Brisbane

"My Dear Mr. Brisbane: I sincerely appreciate the frankness of your interesting letter of April 27, in which you express your concern over the espionage bill now awaiting the action of Congress. I approve of this legislation, but I need not assure you and those interested in it that, whatever action the Congress may decide upon, so far as I am personally concerned, I shall not apply or permit any part of this law to apply to me or any of my official acts, or in any way to be used as a shield against criticism."

"I can imagine no greater disservice to the country than to establish a system of censorship that would deny to the people of a free republic like our own their indisputable right to criticize their own public officials, while exercising the powers of the office I hold. I would regret, in a crisis like the one through which we are passing to lose the benefit of patriotic and intelligent criticism."

"We, whose names are hereto subscribed, pledge that we will not purchase or read Hearst papers or publications. It is our opinion that the intimacy between Hearst and Bolo Pachia as well as his relations with von Bernstorff and other enemy agents clearly show that at this critical period of the world's history Hearst has shown himself to be disloyal to our country."

Persons subscribing to the petitions are given coat label buttons inscribed: "I Do Not Read Hearst Papers." The committee obtained a large quantity of the anti-Hearst emblems from their originator, Lieutenant Claude W. Boynton, of 75 Wall Street, New York City.

Joseph A. Colin, manager of the Grand Theatre, who was one of the first signers of the anti-Hearst pledge, has barred the Hearst-Pathe Weekly News film from his theatre.

The committee has obtained the names of citizens who still read Hearst or read Hearst papers or publications, and will make personal calls on those persons.

JOHNSTOWN, N. Y., Sept. 13.—Citizens of this city have organized a Vigilance Committee for the purpose of driving all Hearst publications, both newspapers and magazines, out of

The Rent Feud

Great Britain and France Have Struck at the Rent Profiteers

By Kenneth Macgowan
Last Article

THE problem of rent profiteering has been solved by at least two of the fighting nations. Perhaps they have solved it unfairly. Perhaps they have merely shifted oppression and financial suffering from one shoulder to another. But, at any rate, they seem to have said that if anybody is to suffer financial loss owing to war-time rent conditions, it must be those with the most resources, those best able to bear it—the landlords.

France declared a moratorium at the beginning of the war, making it inexpedient and practically impossible for a landlord to raise rents.

Great Britain passed, in 1915, an act standardizing rents at pre-war figures.

New South Wales, on the other hand, set up "fair rent courts" to adjust matters as equitably as possible. And no lawyers admitted.

The End of Economic Law

In all three cases the important thing to note is that the government declared that economic law no longer ran. It believed that the protection which such law had given the tenant through the competition of peace times had ended with the practical stoppage of new construction, and hence the practical ending of competition among the landlords.

Our own government has a bill before it designed to prevent exorbitant rent increases. It is the Crosser bill, "to prevent extortion and to impose taxes upon excess profits in rents and for other purposes." Unlike the act passed to fix rents in the District of Columbia at pre-war figures, it allows an increase of 5 per cent. But no more.

The Crosser bill is, in a sense, backed up by actions and bulletins of the Bureau of Industrial Housing and Transportation of the Department of Labor, aiming to prevent exorbitant rents in munition towns and in the neighborhood of war contract plants. A bulletin from the Committee on Public Information says: "Landlords who have raised their rents are considered profiteers by the Bureau of Industrial Housing." The raising of tax assessments on "profiteering" landlords and extensive publicity are the weapons recommended by the bureau.

The Capital Issues Committee of the Treasury Department has done as much as is within its power to control rentals in the few new buildings erected by refusing funds where schedules of prices seem exorbitant.

From the soundest and justest point of view, it is, of course, obvious that the rent question will be settled more wisely by local boards of investigation—as in New South Wales—than by blanket limitation of rents. But the local method is elaborate, slow and expensive. The French and English methods are simple, quick and cheap.

France—Where the Landlord Can't Collect

The French method is simply to make it impossible for a landlord to collect any rent whatever except at the pleasure and to the ability of the tenant. Though the law also forbids the tenant to move unless his rent bill is paid, the first provision makes it necessary for a landlord to keep his tenant's goodwill in order to have any hopes whatever of collecting.

The British Parliament passed on December 23, 1915, a bill called the increase of rent and mortgage interest (war restrictions) act. This law applies to dwellings which rented on August 3, 1914, for less than \$35, or \$175, annually, in the City of London; for less than \$30, or \$150, in Scotland, and for less than \$25, or \$130, elsewhere.

As 90 per cent of New York—with its much higher standard of living and wages than London before the war—lives in flats renting for less than \$25 a month, almost as large a share of London must fall within the \$14-a-month limit of the law's protection.

England Curbs Landlord and Mortgagee

The name of the act indicates one very important angle. It protects the tenant from the landlord, but it also protects the landlord from the mortgagee. No mortgagee can foreclose unless the landlord is grossly mishandling the property, and no mortgagee can advance the rate of interest on his loan.

As another provision of the act practically forbids eviction, this regulation comes down to nothing more nor less than enforcing the status quo ante.

There can be only one defence: The plea that reality is a "long run" business, secure in the permanence of its productivity, and the certainty of profits in normal times.

Shoes and Ships and Sealing Wax

Loaf Sonnet
Ah, my beloved, ponder my dejection:
This afternoon, I'd die for your dear sake,
At noon, though only partially awake,
I felt for you the same old fond affection.

But when the light of morn broke over this section
And you stood firm and stern beside my bed,
And said, so grimly, "Get up, sleepy head!"
I loathed you dear, your voice and your infection.

Sometime (oh, boy!) I know I'll close my eyes
And for a century I'll slumber deep,
Unending bliss! With none to make me rise,
Nor down to urge me from my bed to creep.

And if at last one comes to break my sleep;
Then says, "Sleep on," I'll know it's Paradise.

Lest we forget: Peach pits will win the war—don't eat them.

The loosened tailboard of a farmer's wagon was directly responsible for a traffic jam at Myrtle Avenue and Summerfield Street, Brooklyn, yesterday, which turned several traffic policemen purple of face and filled the air with incoherent words before it was finally unravelled.

"This pavement was uneven and the wagon was filled with freshly dug potatoes. The driver jolted over the roughing, utterly unconscious of the trail of others that he was leaving behind. Conductors and sex man's motorman approaching cars were not.

They speeded up their cars, then braked them violently to a stop and changed direction. When they got to the top of the traffic jam they were stuck. The wagon bumped along down Myrtle Avenue, still shedding potatoes and followed by eager players, who had longed to get out of the Park Place subway station."

Hey, Kaiser Bill! Now do you believe Friday, the Thirteenth, is unlucky?

Into the Gates Avenue court, Brooklyn, only recently filled with the frantic appeals of persons seeking performance of slacker marriages, came John H. Griggs and Mrs. Clara Martin, his bride-to-be.

"We wanted to get married before the war," declared Mr. Griggs, "but the war was so busy that we couldn't get away. I suppose I'll have to go pretty soon."

"It doesn't seem possible," Clerk William Goldstein, who had just officiated with the "safety drill" wedding, murmured, as he led the couple before Magistrate Steers.

"How would you feel?" "L. B. queries, "if you left a perfectly good fourth floor apartment because there were too many stairs, and then were forced to climb sixty odd steps every morning to get out of the Park Place subway station?"

town. Among the leaders in the local anti-Hearst movement are G. C. Potter, Albert M. Banker and Fred T. Ricketts.

At the last meeting of the committee it was decided to circulate petitions asking citizens to pledge themselves to not read Hearst publications. Some of the petitions have been placed in local stores. The petitions read:

"We, whose names are hereto subscribed, pledge that we will not purchase or read Hearst papers or publications. It is our opinion that the intimacy between Hearst and Bolo Pachia as well as his relations with von Bernstorff and other enemy agents clearly show that at this critical period of the world's history Hearst has shown himself to be disloyal to our country."

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